



MONTESSORI K-6 PROGRAM EXTENSIONS

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____

The Montessori K - 6 specials experience within San Tan Charter School includes PE, STREAMS, Outdoor Environment, Peace Education, and Music. These program specials mirror the mainstream/gifted student experience while being infused and delivered with Dr. Maria Montessori's cross-curricular philosophy and vision in mind.

Montessori Specials: \$200* Tax Credit Donation

One key feature that sets the Montessori specials program apart is the continuity of care and community building established with classes attended by students, teachers, and assistants.

Physical Education

The mixed age PE class takes place in the gymnasium each morning. PE is a time when all of Montessori students are able to work on team building skills and group participation, while also getting to know students in the other Montessori classrooms. It is a fun and beautiful time of growth and development for students. Older students take great pride in helping newer and younger children learn the rules of games and sports. We celebrate and honor all ability levels and accommodate all students in our community PE classes.

STREAMS

In STREAMS, we focus on supplementing the Montessori curriculum with project based learning in science, technology, reading/writing, engineering, art, math, and social studies. Since we have an hour together each day for STREAMS, we are able to dive into long-term projects that can be differentiated for the various levels of learning and developed to enhance the wonderful curriculum that Montessori students already receive in their classrooms. During a typical STREAMS class, students have the ability to work on a variety of projects, which gives them the power to find their own passions. Our STREAMS classes take place in our Makerspace, a new area which houses our library and workspace for building, creating, and tinkering. We take things that may otherwise end up as trash and make it all into something beautiful, and our open recycled art sessions are a particular favorite of the Montessori students. Annually, the Montessori community plans and executes an educational and enriching school-wide Earth Day Celebration.

Outdoor Environment

One of the most peaceful and fulfilling parts of the week is time spent in the Montessori Gardens for Outdoor Environment. All students in the Montessori program participate in Outdoor Environment. Gardening, experiments, making art, and taking care of the chickens builds community through excitement and love for the outdoors. The students come together several times a week to explore the wonder of a radish peeking up from the ground, or gather around the worm bin to see how much compost has been made. The Outdoor Environment cross-curricular experiences are shared, discussed, journaled, and remembered as our care for nature helps to strengthen the community.

Peace Education

Dr. Maria Montessori is considered by many to be the original founder of peace education. Her pedagogy for peace is something that we still practice today. At San Tan Charter School, we are creating peace within our community, with our celebration of Peace Friday each week, the peace pole, peace rock creation, a peace room, and our observance of the International Day of Peace. As we continue to evolve our peace curriculum, we have expanded upon Dr. Montessori's vision of peace education by creating a space where all community members can come together to not only get inspired, but to also leave with the tools needed to build everlasting peace. Our dream for our Peace Room keeps that vision in mind: all conflicts can be resolved peacefully if we have the tools, time, and knowledge to do so. By creating a peace library within our warm and inviting space to support discussion and resolution, we will continue to focus on the development of the whole child. By encouraging relational and critical thinking skills, we will be able to incorporate peace education into the natural learning practices that we are already immersed in on a daily basis.

Music

Our Montessori Music program is unlike any other elementary music program you will find. Not only do the children receive music instruction twice a week from a highly qualified music instructor, the curriculum is designed to make their classroom an extension of the music room every day. The teachers and assistants at San Tan Charter School, attend each music class alongside the students learning, dancing and singing with the children. The classroom teachers receive materials from the music teacher especially catered to the Montessori methods that they can use in works and group time to reinforce musical principles all week long. Musical instruments are also available for checkout to the classrooms for children to practice music skills throughout the week. Two musical performances a year are a highlight of the program.

Selections are hand-picked to represent the global connections of music through rich tonalities and meter, providing musical vitamins for their brains. The curriculum also helps children learn basic music theory that will give them a strong musical foundation. In addition, children study many of the great composers and their works, through dance, puppet shows and listening exercises.

Montessori Specials: \$200* Tax Credit Donation

* This fee is not contingent on enrollment in the program.

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Date

For Office Use Only:

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